(*c*) What was the quantity of salt left unsold in the Tamaracolam factories out of the quantity stored therein by the producers of salt till the 14th Vrischikam, 1098 ?

(*d*) Did the salt-producers concerned inform the Excise Commissioner and the Government and give notice to them that they should be paid the *kudivila* for the surplus salt left unsold ?

(*e*) Are the Government aware of the circumstances under which the producers of salt are put to loss on account of the non-payment of *kudivila* in time for the salt stored by them in large quantities ? If so, will the Government be pleased to state them ?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*)& (*b*) The member is referred to the answer to question No. 2 (*b*) & (*c*).

(*c*) A statement† giving the required information is laid on the table.

(*d*) It is reported that some of the licensees made such a request in 1097. But under clause 12 of rule (3) of the Salt Rules, *kudivaram* should be paid to the licensees only after the removal of the salt from the factory.

(*e*) The member is referred to the answer to part (*d*) of the question.

Salt manufactured at Tamaracolam.

4. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikom* cum *Ettumanur*) :

(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to furnish information on the following points:

(1) the quantity of salt manufactured in each of the *alloms* of Tamaracolam during 1096 and 1097, and also in the *Purattasi Pani* of 1098 ;

(2) the quantity transported in each of these years from those *alloms* to other parts of Travancore for consumption ; and

(3) the total quantity of salt left in the *alloms* before the 14th Vrischikam, 1098 ?

(*b*) Was any salt left in the pans without being stored on the platforms in any of the *alloms* at the time of the cyclone in Vrischikam last ? If so, in whose *alloms* was the salt left in the pans ? Why was not storage enforced ?

(*c*) Is any Government officer responsible for the loss of salt in the cyclone ?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) (1), (2) & (3) A statement‡ containing the information is laid on the table.

(*b*) & (*c*) The answer is in the negative.

Kudivaram for Salt.

5. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Vilavankod*):

(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any

† *Vide* Appendix II—page 10. ‡ *Vide* Appendix III—page 11.

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[MR. T. Kumara Pillai.]

period is fixed during which salt should not be used after it has been collected from the salt pans by the producers?

(*b*) If there is any such period, will the Government be pleased to say how it is that, contrary to the rule, some who have collected salt very early do not get their *kudivaram*, while others who have collected it only later get it in a shorter time?

(*c*) Are the Government aware of the fact that this policy causes loss to the salt-producers?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No definite period has been fixed during which salt should not be used after it has been collected. Salt is generally permitted to be issued only after it has become well dried in the drying ground. This period of dryage would vary according to the weather and the quality of the salt manufactured. Ordinarily about three months is the period required for dryage.

(*b*) Government have received no complaints of the sort referred to.

(*c*) In view of the answer to part (*b*), this part of the question does not call for an answer.

Salt destroyed by Floods.

6. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Vilavankod*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the estimate that three lakhs of maunds of salt stored up in the Tamaracolam factories was destroyed by the floods of Vrischikam, 1098, is accurate?

(*b*) How was the estimate of the quantity of salt destroyed by the floods in the Tamaracolam factories arrived at?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the cyclone alone was responsible for the destruction of the salt stored up in the Tamaracolam factories, consequent upon the floods there?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The estimate is fairly accurate.

(*b*) The estimate was arrived at by deducting, from the stored up and estimated quantities of salt in the factories before the 14th Vrischikam, 1098, the quantity that was left in the factories after the floods.

(*b*) The cyclone alone is reported to be responsible for the loss.

Weighment of Salt in Factories.

7. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether it is usual now to weigh and take charge of the salt collected by the producers in the salt factories, and, if not, whether there was such a practice before;

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